COUNCIL COMING ATTRACTIONS



Week of October 2, 2017

Public Campaign Financing, Capital Budget and Spending Affordability, Planning Board's Semi-Annual Report, and Business Incentives



Council Coming Attractions is a summary of some of the issues before the Council. All Council staff reports and additional information on each item scheduled for Council or Committee review can be viewed at:

 $\underline{http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/COUNCIL/ondemand/index.html}\ .$

The Council meeting schedule may change from time to time. The current Council and Committee agendas can also be viewed at:

http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/COUNCIL/ondemand/index.html .

On October 3, the Council session will begin at 9:30 a.m. Council President Berliner will present a proclamation recognizing October as Energy Action Month. Councilmember Rice also will present a proclamation recognizing the winners of the NAACP 39th Annual National ACT-SO Competition.

COUNCIL

Expedited Bill 31-17, Elections – Public Campaign Financing – Contributions – Amendments

The Council will introduce Expedited Bill 31-17. Councilmembers Navarro and Katz and Council Vice President Riemer are the lead sponsors. A public hearing is scheduled for October 17 at 1:30 p.m. Expedited Bill 31-17 would increase the amount of money a candidate who is not married can

donate or loan the candidate's campaign to match the amount permitted for a candidate who is married. The staff report can be viewed at:

http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=169&event_id=7206&meta_id=143662.

- The Council enacted Bill 16-14, Elections Public Campaign Financing in September 2014. Bill 16-14 established the first public campaign finance system for County elections in Maryland.
- Current law limits personal contributions or loans from the candidate or the candidate's spouse to no more than \$6,000 from each. The result is that a candidate who is married may combine with the candidate's spouse to contribute or loan the campaign up to \$12,000 while an unmarried candidate is limited to a personal contribution or loan of up to \$6,000.
- Bill 31-17 would level the field by permitting any candidate, married or unmarried, to contribute a maximum of \$12,000 to the candidate's campaign.

Resolution Regarding Spending Affordability Guidelines for FY19 Capital Budget and FY19-24 Capital Improvements Program

The Council is scheduled to vote on the Spending Affordability Guidelines for the FY19 Capital Budget and FY19-24 Capital Improvements Program. The Government Operations and Fiscal Policy (GO) Committee recommended the following:

- For General Obligation bonds, Councilmembers Navarro and Katz recommended approving \$330 million in FY19, \$320 million in FY20, \$310 million in FY21, \$300 million annually in FYs22-24, and a six-year guideline of \$1.860 billion.
- Councilmember Riemer recommended approving: \$330 million annually in FYs19-20, \$320 million annually in FYs21-22, \$310 million annually in FYs23-24, and a six-year guideline of \$1,920 billion
- For Park and Planning bonds, the Committee unanimously recommended approving the guidelines and targets of \$6.5 million annually in FYs19-24 and a six-year guideline of \$39 million

The staff report can be viewed at:

http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=169&event_id=7206&meta_id=143664 .

Section 305 of the Charter requires the Council to set spending affordability guidelines for the capital budget and CIP each year and requires the Council to establish by law the process and criteria. Subsequent law requires the Council to set the guidelines for capital budgets by resolution biennially no later than the first Tuesday in October in odd-numbered years. This year the deadline is October 3. The guidelines are related to how much the Council believes the County can afford.

Semi-Annual Report of the Montgomery County Planning Board

The Council will review the 2017 Fall Semi-Annual Report of the Montgomery County Planning Board. The full report can be viewed at:

http://montgomeryplanning.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/2017_Fall_Semiannual_Report_Web.pdf.

The staff report can be viewed at:

http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=169&event_id=7206&meta_id=143666.

- New Suburbanism remains a central theme as the Planning Board seeks to promote walkability, a mix of uses, open spaces and design excellence. The Grosvenor-Strathmore and White Flint 2 plans emphasize these principles as well as the recently approved design guidelines for downtown Bethesda.
- Work has also started on the Forest Glen/Montgomery Hills Sector Plan, with an emphasis on improvements to the Georgia Avenue corridor near the Beltway.

- Work is also being done to finalize the Energized Public Spaces Functional Master Plan to lay
 the groundwork for activating parks and open spaces in the County's most densely populated
 communities.
- In addition to the recently completed Rental Housing Study, planning staff is researching "Missing Middle" housing, which is a range of multi-unit housing types that are compatible with single-family homes, and senior housing to understand and accommodate the housing needs of both millennials and older residents.
- In the Department of Parks, the athletic field showcase program is informing interested residents on the state-of-the-art maintenance practices that keep our high-demand fields safe and ready for use.

Supplemental Appropriation to the County Government's FY18 Operating Budget, Department of Police - \$596,920 and State's Attorney's Office - \$246,773, for Gang Activity Suppression

The Council will hold a public hearing and vote on a supplemental appropriation to the FY18 operating budget for the Police Department and the State's Attorney's Office to enhance gang activity suppression efforts. This supplemental appropriation is needed to address an increase in gang-related activity in the County. The supplemental appropriation will provide \$596,920 to the Police Department to create an additional section within the Criminal Gang Unit and provide \$246,773 to the State's Attorney's Office to enhance the Gang Unit. The staff report can be viewed at:

 $\underline{http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=169\&event_id=7206\&meta_id=143668}\ .$

• County leaders have worked to create programs that prevent, intervene in, and suppress gang activity in the County. Staff in various County departments work diligently to coordinate the delivery of services to at-risk youth. As part of this effort, the FY18 operating budget for the County includes more than \$25 million in funding dedicated to Positive Youth Development. However, both the Police Chief and the State's Attorney have noted an increase in dangerous, and sometimes deadly, gang activity that must be addressed through enhanced short-term and long-term strategies. The funding requested in this supplemental appropriation will enable the Police Department and the State's Attorney's Office to immediately ramp up suppression efforts for gang activity in the County.

COMMITTEE

Bill 27-17, Human Rights and Civil Liberties - Human Trafficking Prevention Committee - Established

On October 2 at 9:30 a.m. the Health and Human Services (HHS) Committee will review Bill 27-17. Council President Berliner is the lead sponsor, at the request of the Executive. The staff report can be viewed at:

http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=169&event_id=7423&meta_id=143601.

Bill 27-17 would establish the Human Trafficking Prevention Committee and define its membership, duties and responsibilities.

- The County currently has a Human Trafficking Task Force that meets to develop methods of preventing human trafficking in the County; however, it is unable to officially advise the Executive or the Council because it is not a permanent committee created by law.
- The Task Force also would like to be able to work with the Commission for Women to raise and spend money on human trafficking related issues. Bill 27-17 would establish a permanent committee with 15 voting members appointed by the Executive subject to Council confirmation.

Expedited Bill 16-17, Swimming Pools - Lifeguards - Amendments

The Committee will continue its review of Expedited Bill 16-17. Councilmember Katz is the lead sponsor. Councilmembers Floreen and Elrich and Council President Berliner are cosponsors. The staff report can be viewed at:

http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=169&event_id=7423&meta_id=143603.

Expedited Bill 16-17 would exempt certain public pools at certain facilities from the requirement to have a lifeguard on duty when the pool is open for use; require exempted public pools to meet certain criteria, including posting certain warning signs; and require exempted pools to have an emergency alert system. Under current law, County hotel pools can be open for swimming only if a lifeguard is present.

• According to Councilmember Katz, the County is one of only two jurisdictions in Maryland that require a qualified lifeguard to be on duty to open pools for swimming. This requirement is a burden for the County's hospitality industry that is not faced by neighboring jurisdictions.

® Blueprint for Latino Health in Montgomery County, Maryland, 2017-2026

The Committee will close out its meeting with a presentation about the County's Blueprint for Latino Health. The staff report can be viewed at:

http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=169&event_id=7423&meta_id=143605_.

The Latino Health Initiative issued its first "Blueprint" in 2002 and updated the plan in 2008. The Latino Health Initiative serves the Latino population in the County by enhancing coordination of existing health programs and services; developing models of programs and services; providing technical assistance to programs and services; and advocating for policies and practices that effectively reach targeted communities. The following individuals are expected to participate in the Committee meeting: Maria Gomez, RN, MPH, Co-Chair, Latino Health Initiative (LHI) Steering Committee; Dr. Olivia Carter-Pokras, member, LHI Steering Committee; Henry Montes, MPH, Co-Chair, LHI Steering Committee; and Uma Ahluwalia, Director, Department of Health and Human Services.

Rental Housing Study

On Oct. 2 at 2 p.m. the Planning, Housing and Economic Development (PHED) Committee will continue its discussion of the Rental Housing Study. The following individuals are expected to attend the briefing:

- Kyle Talente, Principal, RKG Associates;
- Casey Anderson, Chair, Montgomery County Planning Board;
- Clarence Snuggs, Director, Montgomery County Department of Housing and Community Affairs;
- Gwen Wright, Director, Montgomery County Planning Department;
- Jalal "Jay" Greene, Division Chief, Division of Housing, Montgomery County Department of Housing and Community Affairs;
- Carrie McCarthy, Chief, Research and Special Projects, Montgomery County Planning Department; and
- Lisa Govoni, Housing Planner, Montgomery County Planning Department.

With Council approval, the Planning Department's Research and Special Projects Division (RSP) coordinated with the County's Department of Housing and Community Affairs (DHCA) to conduct a rental housing study to assesses how the County can best meet the needs of residents across the income spectrum. Study partners include DHCA, RKG Associates, and an Advisory Committee representing diverse perspectives from the public and private sectors. The full report can be viewed at:

http://montgomeryplanning.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/RHS_Strategy-Document2.pdf .

The staff report can be viewed at:

http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=169&event_id=7424&meta_id=143624.

• The economic trends of the County and the Washington metropolitan region have exacerbated the rental housing shortage. Providing the appropriate housing stock to meet the demand for affordable housing is a challenge. The purpose of the study is to identify the County's rental housing issues and needs and offer holistic and sustainable approaches to meeting them. The goal of the study is to help guarantee the long-term affordability of rental housing for a diverse range of households. The study provides recommendations, which begin on page 19, for increasing the availability of affordable rental housing by determining the factors that contribute to increased housing costs, identifying best practices to preserve and add to the affordable rental stock, and recommending potential changes to current policies and programs.

Enhanced Multi-Family Code Enforcement Program

The Committee also will receive an update on the implementation of the enhanced multi-family code enforcement program, which was established by Bill 19-15, Landlord-Tenant Relations, Licensing of Rental Housing-Landlord-Tenant Obligations. Councilmember Elrich was the lead sponsor of Bill 19-15. Councilmembers Navarro and Hucker were cosponsors. The following individuals are expected to participate in this meeting: Clarence Snuggs, Director, Department of Housing and Community Affairs (DHCA); Christopher Anderson, Chief, Community Development Division, DHCA; and Dan McHugh, Code Enforcement Manager, DHCA. The staff report can be viewed at:

http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=169&event_id=7424&meta_id=143609_.

This meeting will focus on properties inspected in the prior year, a summary of violations, status of any corrective action plan, and citations issued and fines collected. Since the code enforcement effort has only recently begun, DHCA has provided a transition report, reflecting actual inspections before the new effort and plans for the FY18 effort.

Bill 26-17, Forest Conservation - Amendments

On October 5 at 9:30 a.m. the Transportation, Infrastructure, Energy and Environment (T&E) Committee will review Bill 26-17. Council President Berliner is the lead sponsor, at the request of the Planning Board. The staff report will be available on October 2. Bill 26-17 would:

- require certain administrative and minor subdivisions to comply with the Forest Conservation Law;
- subject certain conditional uses to the Forest Conservation Law;
- require park development plans to comply with the Forest Conservation Law;
- exempt certain modifications to existing residential development property under certain circumstances;
- require certain projects requiring sketch plan approval to submit a forest stand delineation;
- modify the process for submitting a forest stand delineation;
- alter the maintenance period for forest conservation plans for certain areas;
- remove the requirement that tree variances be referred to the County arborist for recommendation; and
- generally amend laws related to forest conservation.

WSSC Spending Control Limits

The Committee will review spending control limits for WSSC. This process was established in April 1994 via a resolution approved by the Montgomery and Prince George's County Councils, with the goal of both Councils agreeing upon certain budgetary limits by November 1 of each year. The staff report will be available on October 3

Resolution to approve the 2017-2026 Ten-Year Comprehensive Water Supply and Sewerage Systems Plan

The Committee will close out its meeting by continuing its review of the resolution to approve the 2017-2026 Ten-Year Comprehensive Water Supply and Sewerage Systems Plan. The staff report will be available on October 3. In light of OLO Report 2017-5, the Committee has reviewed septic system regulations in the County, as compared to other jurisdictions, with representatives from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the Department of Permitting Services (DPS). DEP staff will continue to describe the major changes included in the recommended Ten-Year Comprehensive Water Supply and Sewerage Systems Plan.

Special Appropriation - \$90,000 for WorkSource Montgomery NDA

On October 5 at 2 p.m. the PHED Committee will review a \$90,000 special appropriation for WorkSource Montgomery. Councilmember Leventhal is requesting this special appropriation so that WorkSource Montgomery can hire a resource development position to pursue private revenue sources to create and maintain an effective workforce delivery system in the County. He has informed the CAO of the Council's consideration of the proposed special appropriation. If the Council approves this special appropriation, it also must amend Resolution 18-823, Section G, FY18 Designation of Entities for Non-Competitive Contract Award Status so that WorkSource Montgomery's FY18 contract can include the additional funds. The staff report will be available on October 3.

Montgomery County Economic Development Corporation

The Committee also will receive an update from the Montgomery County Economic Development Corporation (MCEDC). The mission of MCEDC is to accelerate business growth and retention in the County. MCEDC promotes the County as a prime location for business to thrive. Funded by the County, MCEDC is the official public-private corporation organized as a 501(c)(3). David Petr, CEO of MCEDC, will present and discuss MCEDC's FY18 efforts to attract and retain businesses in the County. The staff report will be available on October 3.

Incubator Update

The Committee will receive an update on incubator programs in the County. Rich Bendis, CEO of Biohealth Innovation (BHI), will present and discuss BHI's efforts at the Germantown and Rockville Innovation Centers. Lily Qi, Assistant Chief Administrative Officer, will discuss the County's efforts to identify a third-party operator for the Silver Spring Innovation Center. The staff report will be available on October 3.

Options for Updating Business Incentives

This meeting was requested by PHED Committee. County Executive and Department of Finance staff will attend the meeting to answer any questions that Committee members may have related to County business incentives. The staff report will be available on October 3.